

## The Christian Life

### Be With Us, Lord

O Lord, by Thine Almighty hand  
Lead Thou the people of this land.  
That they Thy purpose may fulfill,  
Be with us, Lord, be with us still.

That we may ever walk Thy ways,  
With thankful hearts, with grateful praise,  
And heed Thy Word and do Thy will,  
Be with us, Lord, be with us still.

For strength and help from Thee we pray,  
Be Thou our guide from day to day.  
To work Thy works, oh, give us skill,  
Be with us, Lord, be with us still.

—New York Observer.

### SHORT SERMONS

Text:—For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.—II Tim. 1:12.

Banks are often very unsafe places to deposit our money, and yet other places are equally unsafe, perhaps more so. If we invest in some enterprise or in some kind of property, we still run the risk of losing everything, so that what we have laid up "against that day," the day of our need, vanishes. But Paul, it seems, had great confidence in his bank. He was "persuaded," convinced, that it would be safe to deposit his treasures therein. They would be there for him on "that day."

Let us take a look at Paul's bank book, and see what was the color of his money. The absence of stocks and bonds is notable. True he tells us in another place about some "bonds" in which he had a large interest, but they are not quoted on exchange anywhere. They didn't seem to be dividend payers. We fear they wouldn't bring a high price in the market. Come to think of it, he had some "stocks" also, but they are not quoted either. I am afraid they are very much below par in the world. Fact is they went all to pieces at Philippi, and so far as money value is concerned we doubt if they would bring a pittance.

But hold; these stocks and bonds in Paul's bank might be worth something after all. Where you put your valuables and investments makes a world of difference, and since Paul was no fool, we have an inkling that he knew what he was about when he invested in those stocks and bonds, and put them in the bank of the Lord Jesus Christ. Men of the world are keen and alert in money matters, looking out for good investments and safe places to put their money, but here we have for a wonder a Christian who is just as keen and shrewd in spiritual matters, and he makes an awfully interesting and profitable study. Now if we follow his example, what will we deposit in this bank of Christ? Why we will deposit our personal salvation. Yes, we will say: "Instead of investing my soul in silver and gold, or in worldly pleasures, or in worldly fame, or in selfish gratification, I will invest it in God's righteousness. I will invest it in eternal life. I will take a block of New Jerusalem real estate, a built up corner lot, for instance."

A man inclined to make this kind of an investment or deposit will look around him and say: "Well, here is a lot of money the Lord has blessed me with, I will give some to my children, of course, but I have worked hard for it, and it wouldn't be unreasonable to lay up a good round sum for myself. But then myself cannot stay here to enjoy it, so myself will take it along with me; I will 'lay up treasures in heaven.'" Forthwith he endows the College or the Publishing House. Another man says, I will invest my talent in these everlasting securities, I will deposit it in this Christ bank; so forthwith he begins to write or speak for the building up of the kingdom and the salvation of souls.

Another man will say, here are my children. What a treasure they are from the Lord; I will put them where they are safe, I will commit them where I want to find them on that day; I will put them in the hands of Christ, my banker.

Now you will say that the man who does all these things is wise. He would be acting wisely even if life in this world was as long as the age of Methuselah; but lo, it is only a shadow that fleeth away, a hand breadth, a dream of the night, and the only real thing we can do, the only thing which is not utter vanity, is to deposit something in the Lord's bank which will be there for us when we get over on the other side. Is not that so? Is not the counsel wise and good?

Then take not counsel of your indolence, your procrastination, your covetousness, your indifference, your unbelief, but do the right thing at once, and do it in a large, noble, believing way, as becometh our dealings with the Lord's bank, and with Christ, our banker.

## The Mission Field

### Pledged for Washington City Church Property

#### CASH RECEIVED

J. K. Leedy, (Medicine sales) Tom's Brook, Va.,	\$3.00
Enon church, Iowa, per Eli Hoover,	7 75

#### PLEDGED

Mrs. S. J. Lichty, Calvin, Iowa,	\$1.00
Previously reported, pledged, etc.	\$512.28

Total,	\$524.03
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W. M. LYON.

### WASHINGTON CITY ECHOES

Have not time but for a few words this week. Attendance quite small of late on account of the grip. Glad to report another accession by baptism—a noble young man of most excellent standing and good influence.

Another contribution for the church building, a Christmas offering, from the Father's children, Enon congregation, Iowa. This makes \$15.50 from the same place within the past month. Praise the Lord that others are taking hold of the other end of that crosscut saw. Let every one take a pull and see how soon the log will be off!

And please don't lose sight of what Brother Leedy is doing. His work is telling

mightily for the church building fund, and he gets a good income at his end of the line. If others want to try the same plan, drop me a postal, please, and we will tell you particulars.

Asking the prayers of all who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, I remain your servant in the gospel,

W. M. LYON.

### BARRELS

J. L. GILLIN

Barrels of money! Who would not be glad to see them? Well we secured them at Enon this year. Yes, real barrels of money. Let me tell you how you can do it also; it is an easy task.

When our brethren, Talley and Bowman came into our congregation last year with a stock of little wooden barrels with a little slit in the top there were some who tossed their heads and laughed at the "childish" idea. But many were not to be laughed out of a good resolve. On many a family's shelf at home we could see the barrels all thro the year.

The first Sunday of each month was the time to bring the contents of their barrels and give it to brother Dan Lichty who was the treasurer for the "barrel mission money." And how much do you suppose these barrels saved for the cause of Jesus this year? Well Brother Lichty tells me that there was over twenty dollars gathered by these little "childish" barrels. Who now will "despise the day of small things?" This illustrates the old English proverb, "Take care of the pence and the pounds will take care of themselves."

How did we do it? Well, each family took two barrels, one for home and one for foreign missions. One brother who used to buy a cigar when he went to town decided it was a useless luxury, to say the least, and instead he would put the nickle in the little barrel. Another put into the barrel what pennies he got in the transaction of his business. Others put something in whenever they thought of it. But the total was what is given above. Certainly enough to cause us not to despise the little wooden barrel as a saver of pennies for the cause we love. I wonder if the Brethren church does not have hundreds of men and women who will consecrate enough time to think occasionally to put something into the barrel? I wonder if she does not have hundreds among her membership who would deny themselves a few cents worth of indulgences which are often harmful, for Jesus' sake and the sake of sending the gospel to lost souls?

### Missionary Convention

The Enon Brethren church will hold a three days' Missionary Convention, the Lord willing, Jan. 13 15. All the scattered members are invited to attend. Brothers J. O. Talley and J. C. Cassel expect to be present to conduct it.

J. L. GILLIN.